APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/425,177	10/22/1999	MICHAEL CARROLL	52817.000102	9182

29315   7590   04/10/2003

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2176	5

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/425,177	Applicant(s) CARROLL, MICHAEL
	Examiner Almari Romero	Art Unit 2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _19 November 2002_ .
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are pending in the application.
   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _22 November 1999_ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
       application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _2, 4_ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: Application filed on 10/22/99 and the IDSs

filed on 05/22/02 and 11/19/02.

2.   Claims 1-20 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 9, 16, and 17 are independent claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

3.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 5/22/02 and 11/19/02 has been

considered by the examiner.

Drawings

4.   The drawings filed on 10/22/99 are objected to as indicated in the attached PTO-948

form. Formal corrected drawings can be filed at allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United
> States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who
> has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention
> thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999

(AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined

was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C.

122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment

by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6.   **Claims 9, 13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by**

Stern et al. (USPN 5,835,919 – filed on 05/1996).

Regarding independent claim 9, Stern et al. (Stern) discloses:

A system for processing at least two target information regions within an electronic

document, comprising:

an input interface to accept input to select the target information regions (Stern on col. 7,

lines 46-49, see figure 3B: teaches triangle 60 is selected within the frame in dotted line 62 (also

selected)); and

a processor unit connected to the input interface, the processor unit processing the target

information regions (Stern on col. 5, lines 4-28: teaches central processing unit connected to a

display device and communicates with the internal or external peripheral devices).

Regarding dependent claim 13, Stern discloses:

wherein the input unit accepts input from at least one of a keyboard, a speech to text

converter, a mouse, a pressure pad and a trackball device (Stern on col. 5, lines 19-21: teaches

data entry devices such as keyboard, mouse, trackball or the like).

Regarding dependent claim 15, Stern discloses:

wherein the electronic document comprises graphical information (Stern on col. 7, lines

46-49, see figure 3B: teaches triangle 60 is a graphical component).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

8.   **Claims 1-2, 5-8, 10, 14, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over Stern et al., as applied to claims 9, 13, and 15, in view of Fleming et al.

(USPN 5,664,210 – issued on 09/1997).

Regarding independent claim 1, Stern discloses:

A method of processing at least two target information regions wherein at least one information

separates the mo target regions within an electronic document, the method comprising the steps

of:

a) accepting input to select the target information regions and the information separating

region; c) accepting input to process the target information regions (Stern on col. 7, lines 46-67,

see figure 3B: teaches triangle 60 is selected within the activated frame in dotted line 62 (also

selected); wherein the activated frame can be selected by pressing a button on the cursor control

device).

However, Stern does not explicitly disclose, "deselect the information separating region".

Fleming et al. (Fleming) on col. 2, lines 22-29: teaches deselect selected portions of text.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Fleming into Stern to provide a way to deselect selected

portions of text, as taught by Fleming, incorporated into the selecting of a triangle with an

activated frame, as taught by Stern, in order to increase the manipulation of both text and

graphical data.

Regarding dependent claim 2, Fleming discloses:

wherein the target information regions comprise text, and at least two target information

regions are separated by at least one information separating region (Fleming on col. 1, lines 55-

61 teaches multiple portion of text can be selected at the same time).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Fleming into Stern to provide a way to select portions of

text at the same and deselect selected portions of text, as taught by Fleming, incorporated into the

selecting of a triangle with an activated-frame, as taught by Stern, in order to increase the

manipulation of both text and graphical data.

Regarding dependent claims 5 and 6, Stern discloses:

change a number and content of the target information regions (Stern on col. 7, line 46 –

col. 8, line 6: teaches changing size or shape of the activated frame).

Regarding dependent claim 7, Stern discloses:

wherein the electronic document comprises graphical information (Stern on col. 7, lines

46-49, see figure 3B: teaches triangle 60 is a graphical component).

Regarding dependent claim 8, Stern discloses:

wherein the target information regions and the information separating region are each

designated by a box, each box having two delimiter tags located at opposite corners (Stern on

col. 7, lines 46-49, see figure 3B: teaches triangle 60 is selected within the frame (box) in dotted

line 62 (also selected)).

Regarding dependent claims 10 and 18, Fleming discloses:

wherein the target information regions comprise noncontiguous textual information

(Fleming on col. 1, lines 55-61 teaches multiple portion of text can be selected at the same time

and does not have to be adjacent to each other).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Fleming into Stern to provide a way to select portions of

text at the same that does not have to be adjacent to each other and deselect selected portions of

text, as taught by Fleming, incorporated into the selecting of a triangle with an activated frame,

as taught by Stern, in order to increase the manipulation of both text and graphical data.

Regarding dependent claim 14, Fleming discloses:

wherein the input interface receives input for a positional indicator and the processor unit

selects information when the positional indicator is moved in a first direction and deselects

information when the positional indicator is moved in a second direction (Fleming on col. 2,

lines 22-29: teaches deselect selected portions of text by moving the cursor).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Fleming into Stern to provide a way to deselect selected

portions of text, as taught by Fleming, incorporated into the selecting of a triangle with an

activated frame, as taught by Stern, in order to increase the manipulation of both text and

graphical data.

Regarding independent claim 16, Stern discloses:

A computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for selecting information of an electronic document selectively divided into at least two target information regions and at least one information separating regions, the computer readable program code in the computer useable medium comprising:

computer readable program code for causing a computer to accept input for selecting the target information regions of the electronic document; computer readable program code for causing a computer to process the target information regions.

(Stern on col. 7, lines 46-67, see figure 3B: teaches triangle 60 is selected within the activated frame in dotted line 62 (also selected); wherein the activated frame can be selected by pressing a button on the cursor control device).

However, Stern does not explicitly disclose, "selecting noncontiguous information" and "deselect the information separating region".

Fleming on col. 1, lines 55-61 teaches multiple portion of text can be selected at the same time and does not have to be adjacent to each other; on col. 2, lines 22-29: teaches deselect selected portions of text.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Fleming into Stern to provide a way to select portions of text at the same that does not have to be adjacent to each other and deselect selected portions of text, as taught by Fleming, incorporated into the selecting of a triangle with an activated frame, as taught by Stern, in order to increase the manipulation of both text and graphical data.

Regarding independent claim 17, Stern discloses:

A system for processing noncontiguous target information within an electronic document, the

system comprising:

input means to accept input for selecting target information regions and processor means

for processing the target information regions, said processor means operatively connected to the

input means (Stern on col. 7, lines 46-67, see figure 3B: teaches triangle 60 is selected within the

activated frame in dotted line 62 (also selected); wherein the activated frame can be selected by

pressing a button on the cursor control device).

However, Stern does not explicitly disclose, "noncontiguous information" and "deselect

the information separating region".

Fleming on col. 1, lines 55-61 teaches multiple portion of text can be selected at the same

time and does not have to be adjacent to each other; on col. 2, lines 22-29: teaches deselect

selected portions of text.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Fleming into Stern to provide a way to select portions of

text at the same that does not have to be adjacent to each other and deselect selected portions of

text, as taught by Fleming, incorporated into the selecting of a triangle with an activated frame,

as taught by Stern, in order to increase the manipulation of both text and graphical data.

9.   **Claims 3-4, 11-12, and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over Stern and Fleming, as applied to claims 1-2, 5-10, and 13-18, in further

view of Greyson et al. (USPN 5,666,552 – issued on 09/1997).

Regarding dependent claim 3, Stern and Fleming disclose the invention substantially as

claimed as described *supra*. However, Stern and Fleming do not explicitly disclose "first begin

select delimiter to the left of a first region and a first end select delimiter to the right of a second

target information region in an electronic file".

Greyson et al. (Greyson) on col. 5, line 43 – col. 6, line 28: teaches initial and final

selection point of the selection region.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Greyson into Stern and Fleming to provide a way to point

the selection region with initial and final selection point, as taught by Greyson, incorporated into

the selection of a graphic or text, as taught by Stern and Fleming, in order to directly and visually

manipulate text on a computer display screen requiring user control activations thereby

simplifying the user interface.

Regarding dependent claim 4, Greyson discloses:

wherein step (b) comprises the step of accepting input to deselect the information

separating region by storing a second end select delimiter to the right of the first target

information region, said second end select delimiter corresponding with the first begin select

delimiter, and storing a second begin select delimiter to the left of the second target information

region, said second begin select delimiter corresponding with the first end select delimiter

(Greyson on col. 5, line 43 – col. 6, line 28: teaches extending from the initial selection point to

the final selection point of the selection region; wherein using the cursor will define the bounds

of the selection region).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Greyson into Stern and Fleming to provide a way to point

the selection region with initial and final selection point, as taught by Greyson, incorporated into

the selection of a graphic or text, as taught by Stern and Fleming, in order to directly and visually

manipulate text on a computer display screen requiring user control activations thereby

simplifying the user interface.

Regarding dependent claims 11 and 19, Greyson discloses:

wherein the processor unit stores a begin tag and an end tag for each of the target

information regions (Greyson on col. 5, line 43 – col. 6, line 28: teaches initial (begin tag) and

final (end tag) selection point of the selection region).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Greyson into Stern and Fleming to provide a way to point

the selection region with initial and final selection point, as taught by Greyson, incorporated into

the selection of a graphic or text, as taught by Stern and Fleming, in order to directly and visually

manipulate text on a computer display screen requiring user control activations thereby

simplifying the user interface.

Regarding dependent claims 12 and 20, Fleming discloses:

further comprising an output interface to transmit a display of a region of text selected as

one of the target information regions in a different manner than a region of text selected as one of

the information separating regions (Fleming on col. 1, lines 55-61: teaches displaying multiple

portion of text that can be selected at the same time and does not have to be adjacent to each

other).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Fleming into Stern to provide a way to select portions of text at the same that does not have to be adjacent to each other and deselect selected portions of text, as taught by Fleming, incorporated into the selecting of a triangle with an activated frame, as taught by Stern, in order to increase the manipulation of both text and graphical data.

Conclusion

10.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

USPN 6,151,426 – Lee et al. – filed on 10/1998

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Almari Romero whose telephone number is (703) 305-5945. The

examiner can normally be reached on Mondays - Fridays (7:30am - 4:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (703) 308-5186. The fax phone numbers for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular

communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

AR
April 3, 2003

HEATHER R. HERNDON
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